

Bay of Pigs Data Added By Salinger

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The late President Kennedy believed that premature disclosures by the press helped doom the Bay of Pigs operation in Cuba, Pierre Salinger asserted yesterday.

Salinger, who was White House press secretary in the Kennedy Administration, disputed one published version in which the President was described as believing that the New York Times should have printed more stories of the invasion preparations.

Mr. Kennedy "never publicly or privately blamed the press for this disaster, but he always felt that the advance disclosure helped doom the operation," Salinger told the National Press Club.

Salinger referred to a speech by the Times managing editor, E. Clifton Daniel, who said Mr. Kennedy had told Turner Catledge, executive editor, that he "wished the Times had printed more in advance of the invasion. Maybe it would have saved us."

Salinger recommended that President Johnson appoint a commission to examine the relationship between the press and Government in handling national security information.

The former press secretary, now an airline executive and author of a new book, said three major events of the Kennedy Administration would not have taken place had they been disclosed prematurely. They were the release by the Soviet Union of the U.S. RB-47 pilots, the nuclear test-ban agreement of 1963, and the exchange of U-2 pilot Gary Powers for Soviet spy Rudolf Abel.